



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 7, 1999

H.R. 659 PATRIOT Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on April 28, 1999

Assuming appropriation of the authorized and estimated amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 659 would cost the federal government about \$5 million over the next five years. H.R. 659 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

Title I would authorize the National Park Service (NPS) to provide funds to Malvern, Pennsylvania, and the commonwealth of Pennsylvania so that these entities would be able to purchase the Paoli Battlefield and a portion of the Brandywine Battlefield. For these purposes, title I would authorize the appropriation of \$4.25 million. In addition, the title would authorize the appropriation of whatever sums are necessary for a resource study of the acquired areas, which the NPS would have to complete within 18 months of receiving funding.

Title II would authorize the NPS to execute an agreement with the Valley Forge National Historical Society under which the society would construct a museum within the boundaries of the Valley Forge National Historical Park. This title would authorize the NPS to provide visitor information and interpretive facilities and programs at the museum. Although the museum would be owned by the federal government, the society would operate and maintain it with revenues it collects from fees and sales of merchandise.

Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that the NPS would spend \$4.5 million over the next two years to finance the acquisition of the battlefield properties and complete the required resource study. We estimate that the agency would spend an additional \$0.5 million to \$1 million to execute the agreement with the Valley Forge National Historical Society and provide interpretive materials for the museum. These estimates are based on information provided by the NPS.

H.R. 659 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. Pennsylvania and some local governments might incur some costs as a result of the bill's enactment, but these costs would be voluntary. The bill would require that federal funds provided for land acquisition be matched with equal amounts of nonfederal funds, some or all of which might be provided by the commonwealth of Pennsylvania and local governments in that state. Further, these governments could choose to manage these properties under cooperative agreements with the National Park Service. This bill would have no other significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contacts are Deborah Reis (for federal costs), and Marjorie Miller (for the state and local impact). This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.